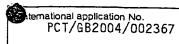
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IPC 7	IFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER A61F2/46 A61B17/16		
	o International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classific	ation and IPC	
	SEARCHED ocumentation searched (classification system followed by classification system followed by classifi	ian mentala)	
IPC 7	A61F A61B	ion symbols)	
Documenta	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that	such documents are included in the fields se	earched
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data ba	se and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-In	ternal, WPI Data, PAJ		
			••
C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the rei	evant passages	Relevant to daim No.
χ	US 5 688 281 A (CRIPE PHIL ET AL	`	1 0 10
^	18 November 1997 (1997-11-18)	-/	1-8,10, 11,13,17
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X	FR 2 796 267 A (PROTHEOS IND)		1-3,5,
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χ	EP 0 619 097 A (SULZER MEDIZINAL)	rechnik	1-3,5-7,
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	column 3, line 22 -column 7, line	∍ 8	
	figures 1-3		
	-	-/	
χ Furti	ner documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in	n annex.
 Special ca 	tegories of cited documents :	'T' later document published after the Inter	national filing date
	ent defining the general state of the art which is not ered to be of particular relevance	or priority date and not in conflict with a cited to understand the principle or the invention	
'E' earlier o	ocument but published on or after the International ate	"X" document of particular relevance; the di	
"L' docume	nt which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another	cannot be considered novel or cannot involve an inventive step when the doc	cument is taken alone
citation	n or other special reason (as specified) ent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or	"Y" document of particular relevance; the discussion of cannot be considered to involve an involve and document is combined with one or mo.	entive step when the
other r		ments, such combination being obvious in the art.	s to a person skilled
later th	an the priority date claimed	"&" document member of the same patent f	amily
Date of the	actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international sear	ch report
2	5 August 2004	07/09/2004	·
Name and n	nalling address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2	Authorized officer	
	NL - 2280 HV Fijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni.		•
	Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Storer, J	

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	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category *	Citation of document, with Indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X .	US 5 888 211 A (SANDERS ANTHONY P) 30 March 1999 (1999-03-30) column 3, line 19 - line 64 figures 1-3	1-3,5,6, 13,16,18
(US 6 159 216 A (KANA RICHARD J ET AL) 12 December 2000 (2000-12-12)	1-3,5,6, 10,11, - 13,17
	column 3, line 5 - line 13 figure 1	13,17
		:
·		

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (January 2004)



Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:
Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
·
Claims Nos.: Claims Nos.: Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).
Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were firmely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 20

Present claim 20 relates to an extremely large number of possible apparatus. In fact, the claim contains so many possible permutations that a lack of clarity within the meaning of Article 6 PCT arises to such an extent as to render a meaningful search of the claims impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the application which do appear to be clear, namely claims 1-19.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

Information on patent family members

rational Application No PCT/GB2004/002367

Patent document dted in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	. Publication date
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